

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:630

ANSWERED ON:22.10.2008

TRANSFER OF MONEY BY NIZAM OF HYDERABAD

Badiga Shri Ramakrishna

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Finance Minister of the then Nizam of Hyderabad had transferred a million pounds to National Westminster Bank of London, which were further transferred to the account of Pakistan High Commission in the same bank;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with its current value; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to bring back this money to the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

(a) Yes.

(b) On 20th September 1948 an amount of over one million Pound Sterling (1,007,940 Pound Sterling and 9 Shillings) from an account of the Nizam of Hyderabad's Government in National Westminster Bank, London, was transferred into an account in the name of the then High Commissioner of Pakistan in London. The transfer was without the consent of the Nizam's Government. The fund stood at Pound sterling 31,966,253.77 (Pound Sterling thirty one million nine hundred sixty six thousand two hundred and fifty three and Shillings seventy-seven only) in January 2008 and has been re-deposited.

(c) From 1960 onwards, the issue has been discussed at various levels with Pakistan. India and Pakistan are making efforts to reach an out-of-court settlement with the heirs of the Nizam of Hyderabad.